

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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1. Prior to the end of 1951 two companies extracted and refined oil in Rumania. Muntenia, a state enterprise under the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum, furnished 67 per cent and Sovrompetrol, a Russo-Rumanian company, 33 per cent of all oil production.
2. Competroil, under the control of the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum, distributed the oil to local consumers, while Petrolexport, under the Ministry of Foreign Trade, was in charge of all exports. However, the export ports at Constanta, Giurgiu, and Reni were under the management of Muntenia.
3. At the end of 1951 Sovrompetrol took over all activities of Muntenia and Competroil. From this date it was responsible for all extraction, refining, and distribution of petroleum. Since the export ports had been part of the property of Muntenia, Sovrompetrol also controlled all exports. The rivalry between Sovrompetrol and Muntenia was one reason for the change; the USSR had sent all drilling and mining material exclusively to Sovrompetrol.
4. The following refineries were formerly operated by Muntenia:
  - a. Astra (former name) at Ploesti. This refinery was the only one which suffered no bomb damage during the last war. It employs 4,000 men and has a capacity of more than 5,000 tons per 24 hours.
  - b. Romano-Americana (former name) at Ploesti. This refinery covers an area of 50 to 60 hectares and employs 3,000 men. It has about 40 storage tanks with a capacity of 1,000 to 6,000 tons each. New tanks are being added, and the old ones are frequently under repairs. The refinery has an automobile repair workshop with 100 employees. The damage which the refinery had suffered from United States bombers some days before the signing of the Armistice has been recently repaired. It now has a capacity of 3,000 to 4,000 tons per 24 hours.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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- c. Vacuum Oil (former name) at Stalin (Brasov) produces good quality lubricating oils for automobiles and aircrafts. It employs 300 men and has a capacity of 200 to 300 tons per 24 hours.
- d. Steaua Romana (former name) at Campina employs 2,000 workers and has a capacity of 2,000 to 3,000 tons per 24 hours.
- e. Romano-Belgiana (former name) at Ramnicul Sarat has a capacity of some tens of tons per 24 hours.
- f. The refinery at Moinești has the equipment of two oil refineries: the Petrole De Bucharest [redacted] was dismantled in 1948 and taken to Moinești; and a small refinery which belongs to the Steaua Romana Company in Moinești. Petrole has a capacity of 800 to 1,000 tons per 24 hours. The small Steaua Romana refinery has always been supplied with oil from the Ploesti area which was brought to Moinești by rail. The new refinery is similarly supplied, although new oil wells have been discovered in the Moinești area.

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5. The following refineries are operated by Sovrompetrol:

- a. Concordia (former name) at Ploesti employs 4,000 men and, with the 1 May Works, forms a single unit. Its capacity is 5,000 tons per 24 hours.
- b. Petrol-Blok (former name) at Ploesti is a small refinery.
- c. Standard (former name) at Ploesti has a capacity of approximately 5,000 tons per 24 hours.
- d. Unirea (former name) was amalgamated with Astra when Sovrompetrol took over Muntenia at the end of 1951.

6. New borings are being made constantly in both old and new oil areas. Oil has been found in Moinești and Oltenia, but not in large quantities. Old wells, which were worked on the Canadian system and abandoned for the past 40 years, have been modernized and reopened. Ninety-seven per cent of the new drilling planned for 1950 has been carried out. Total capacity of refineries exceeds the quantity of oil available. Refineries are often forced to wait for the arrival of crude oil, although they work 24 hours a day when sufficient supplies are available.

7. In 1950 the total monthly production of all refineries was 600,000 tons. Muntenia produced 380,000 tons, and Sovrompetrol produced 220,000 tons.

8. The USSR is the principal foreign source of drilling equipment, and it furnishes principally pipes, in shipload quantities. The 1 May Works at Ploesti is the principal local source of drilling equipment. This factory produces derricks, drill heads, small pipes, galvanized barrels, and cans. A branch factory at Constanta also produces cans. These works have been enlarged by the installation of new machinery imported from the USSR and Eastern Germany. The number of workers has increased from 3,000 to 8,000.

9. It has been planned to build new refineries in all districts in order to save transportation of finished products from Ploesti. One refinery is to be built in Transylvania, probably at Oradea Mare. At the Romano-Americana refinery at Teleajen, a new cracking installation (Pypstill), which was brought from Czechoslovakia before the nationalization, was installed by Czech specialists in 1950/1951. The refinery has a second such installation, and the two have a combined capacity of 3,000 to 4,000 tons daily.

10. In 1950 there were three oil pipe-lines: one to Constanta, one to Reni, and one to Giurgiu. The central pumping station for all three pipelines is in the Romano-Americana refinery at Teleajen. The products of the Ploesti refineries are brought there and distributed to the three termini. The pumping station has its own electric power station. At Reni the oil is piped directly into Soviet tankers. At Constanta the oil is first piped into tanks, which are on higher

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ground on the outskirts of the port. From there the oil goes to tanks in the port itself, and from them to the tankers. The first row of tanks were formerly owned by the Astra Company.

11. In the winter of 1951/1952 civilian consumers received from 2 to 14 liters of kerosene monthly (allocation based on the number of persons in a family ) for heating.
12. For about the last three months of 1950 Soviet [ ] tankers of 25X1 8,000 or 9,000 tons left the port of Constanta daily for the USSR. Petrollexport represents Rumania, and a mixed military and civilian commission represents the USSR. The quality of the oil products is very carefully tested; nevertheless, a quantity of oil was returned from Odessa as not up to specifications, and the members of the Soviet Commission were recalled for having accepted products considered as sub-standard. The Soviet Commission uses the former Astra Company's laboratory, located near the tanks, to analyze the oil and to raise the octane count of aviation gasoline with ethyl brought from the USSR.
13. Light gasoline for automobiles, with a specific gravity of 35 to 38; small quantities of aviation gasoline, with a specific gravity of approximately 20; and diesel oil are regularly exported to the USSR from Constanta.
14. Two to three hundred tons of lubricating oil were exported to Poland from Ploesti at the end of 1950.
15. In 1949 a number of [ ] trucks were imported, most of them for the 25X1 oil industry. These trucks weigh 18 tons and are 14 meters long.

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